in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the amount of loan sought for;

(c) which are the roads proposed to be improved with the above loan; and

(d) what is the present position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 70.00 crores.

(c) Not yet finalised.

(d) Does not arise.

Policy for Human Settlements

3203. SHRI R. S. GAVAI : Will the MINISTER OF URBAN EMPOLYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to formulate an overall policy for all human settlements in place of rural and urban areas in segments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also evolved any strategy for facing the problems connected with human settlements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) to (d) The National Housing & Habitat Policy of 1998 was laid on the Table of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha on 29th July, 1998. The National Housing & Habitat Policy envisages Governments role as an enabler rather than a builder. Government regulatory, technical and financial constraints facing the Housing Sector. This would help all sections of the Society to gain access to land, finance an technology to obtain shelter for themselves. Government will however, continue to intervene directly for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society. The long term goal of this policy is to create surplus in housing stock either on ownership or rental basis. The state Governments are required to draw up their own action plans to address the housing problems in their states. Several steps including fiscal concession have also been initiated.

In the rural sector, as reported by the Ministry of Rural Development, a National Mission for Rural Housing and Habitat has been set up by the Ministry of Rural Development to enable the induction of science and technology inputs on a continuous basis into the sector and providing convergence to technology, habitat and energy related issues with a goal to providing affordable shelter for all in rural areas within a specified time frame and through community participation. The aim of the National Mission is to ensure the creation of sustainable human settlement in the rural areas. An Action Plan has also been drawn up which include (i) Conversion of unserviceable houses into pucca/ semi pucca under Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) (ii) Credit-cum-subsidy Scheme (iii) Samagra Awas Yojana (iv) Innovative Stream for rural housing and Habitat Development (v) Setting up of Rural Building Centres and National Mission for Rural Housing and Habitat. These Schemes have been launched *w.e.f.* 1-4-1999.

National Policy on Slums

3204. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA

: SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN :

Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seized of the problem of slums encroaching on Government land in important cities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to evolve a National policy on slums; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A large number of people have been migarating from time to time from villages to big cities in search of employment opportunities. Such informal settlements have also encroached upon the Government land. As per the estimates (1991) of town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO), the slum population in four metropolitan cities viz. Calcutta, Mumbai, Chennai and Delhi was 36.26 lakhs, 43.20 lakhs, 15.25 lakhs and 22.48 lakhs respectively.

(c) and (d) Ministry have prepared a draft National Slum Policy. The draft is still under consideration.